



MassDEP

Drinking Water Program

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Drinking Water Program Updates

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This week's program director email has these topics of interest:

1. America's Water Infrastructure Act –Changes to Emergency Response and the CCR
2. State Revolving Fund's Intended Use Plans
3. PWS Award Nominations
4. Filters to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water
5. Lead and Copper Samples are Due Soon
6. Private Well Owners' Information
7. Training

America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Summary

President Trump, on October 11, 2018, signed into law a bill that includes items of interest to the drinking water industry. S. 3021 America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (AWIA) is the authorization for the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA) which was passed on October 2018 in the Senate by a 99-1 vote.

You can read more about this Act at: <https://www.drinkingwateralliance.org/single-post/2018/11/07/Gains-for-Drinking-Water-Safety-America%E2%80%99s-Water-Infrastructure-Act-of-2018>.

Two major sections of the bill pertain to Emergency Response and Consumer Confidence Reports which are detailed below.

Emergency Response

America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) (S.3021) amends the Safe Drinking Water Act specific to community water system risk and resilience. AWIA is requiring community water systems to prepare vulnerability assessments and emergency response plans. EPA is currently working on tools to ensure AWIA compliance, and here is an easy to read schedule of their current plan:

EPA Risk Assessment and ERP Products for AWIA Compliance (1)

Product	Description	Availability (projected)
Federal Register Notice	• AWIA requirements and EPA implementation planning	Mar 31, 2019
Compliance Fact Sheet	• User-friendly version of requirements, EPA compliance planning and tools	April 15, 2019
Technical Assistance Primer	• Information on certification reporting, FAQs, and compliance support and tools	June 1, 2019
Baseline Threat Information Document	• Baseline information on malevolent acts relevant to CWSs	August 1, 2019

Some highlights include:

- AWIA does not require any particular use of standards or tools to develop the risk assessment or ERP.
- AWIA only requires the CWS name, date of completion, and statement of completion be included in certification to EPA (detailed submittal procedures will be provided by 8/1/2019 by EPA)
- CWSs may use previous risk assessments (i.e., vulnerability assessments) and ERPs developed prior to enactment of AWIA as long as they include all assessment or response components listed in AWIA and reflect current condition of the CWS.
- Risk assessments may be conducted as either a self-assessment or by a third party.
- Required 5-year review and revision process, meaning the CWS must review their risk assessment every 5 years, incorporate any revisions into their ERP and submit certification to EPA that they have done so.

To review the Water ISAC website pertaining to Drinking Water System Risk Assessments and Emergency Response Plans Required Under AWIA and to view an hour-long presentation on it click [here](#).

Consumer Confidence Reports

The AWIA is requiring changes to the content, form, manner, and frequency of Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR).

Some highlights include:

- Timeline: Required within two years of AWIA enactment (slated to start in October 2020)
- Community systems serving >10,000 persons must deliver CCRs semiannually (twice a year)

It is thought that in this way consumers will get closer to real-time reporting of their drinking water quality. As it stands now some information is one and half years old before the consumers receive it.

- Increase the readability, clarity, understandability, accuracy of information and risk communication of CCRs
- Allows electronic delivery

In January of 2013 EPA sent out memorandum allowing e-delivery of CCRs and many systems took the option to e-deliver their CCR. However, with the other new requirements, it may well be to your advantage to e-deliver your CCR and MassDEP encourages you to do so.

- CWS must include additional information on corrosion control efforts, and any lead action level exceedances that required corrective action
- Lead, being an exceedingly harmful toxin in water, is now in the forefront and consumers want and need to know about it.

Next Steps

- Consultation - EPA will consult with stakeholders, PWS, states, and others during the revisions. There is a 24-month window as to when EPA will make a proposed ruling on these issues, which will put the date around October 2020 for enactment. EPA will be consulting stakeholders, state, and others for their input. Stay tuned for more details on this as the late 2020 deadline approaches.

How do you get ready for these changes?

If you are currently not using e-delivery, review the process and take advantage of the opportunity to e-deliver. MassDEP will keep you informed in this newsletter so keep reading these updates. If you have any questions on CCR please contact program.director-dwp@mass.gov Subject: CCR

State Revolving Fund's Intended Use Plans

MassDEP is pleased to present the Calendar Year 2019 Intended Use Plan (IUP), which lists the proposed projects, borrowers, and amounts that will be financed through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan program. The DWSRF is a joint federal-state financing program that provides subsidized interest rate loans to protect public health by improving water supply, infrastructure systems, and protecting drinking water in the Commonwealth.

Massachusetts proposes to offer \$147 million to finance drinking water projects across the Commonwealth. Approximately \$138 million will fund 20 new construction projects, \$6 million will be allocated towards funding five previously approved multi-year projects, \$55,000 is allocated towards the Planning Project submitted, and \$3 million will fund an emergency set-aside account.

Please go to: <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2019/03/07/19dwiupf.pdf> to view the entire report.

PWS Award Nominations

The 2019 Awards Program will be held at Devens Common Center in Devens on May 7, 2019. Please note that there are a couple of nominated awards in addition the compliance awards.

Do you know of a certified operator that went above and beyond their call of duty in 2018? Let us know about him or her. Email a paragraph or two telling us about your operator to Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov Subject: Awards, for consideration for this award.

Has your municipal system been working with the town schools to reduce lead in school drinking water in 2018? Then nominate the PWS and the town for the STARL Award. Send an email to Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov Subject: Awards, and tell us about what they are doing or did do to accomplish this achievement.

All nominations sent in will be considered for these 2 awards. Get your emails in to the program director before March 27, 2019.

Filters to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

Please find a link below to the US EPA Office of Research and Development's recently published tool for identifying filters certified to reduce lead. This factsheet can be used to help identify filters that remove lead, and provide pictures of approved marks and text that indicates a filter has been certified for lead reduction capabilities.

A Consumer Tool for Identifying Point of Use (POU) Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead: <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-pou-drinking-water-filters-certified-reduce-lead>

LCR Sampling

For those systems subject to the Lead and Copper Rule, your six-month sampling is nearing in June. To help you to prepare with this process, please follow the steps listed on the following Checklist: <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2019/02/28/lcrsamplchkst.pdf>

It is really important to verify that all your sampling addresses are correct and up-to-date. You can check your sampling plan on the Document Search page on our website: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/public-water-supplier-document-search>.

In addition, please remember that minor changes have been made to the following LCR forms:

1. Lead and Copper Checklist (update).
2. LCR-SP-A lead and copper sampling plan (updated).
3. Instructions for Using Lead Public Education Template Language (updated).
4. Lead and Copper 90th percentile form LCR-D (updated).

5. Lead and Copper 90th percentile form LCR-E (updated).
6. LCR Highest Tier site (new form).
7. Public Education Certification form (new form).
8. LCR COC for NTNC systems only (new form).
9. LCR Consumer Notification Certification form (updated).
10. LCR NTNC Compliance Sampling Program and Consumer Notification - NTNC results (New form).
11. LCR Compliance Sampling Program - School results (Updated).

All forms can be found at: [https://www.mass.gov/lists/lead-and-copper-forms-and-templates#lead-and-copper-rule-\(lcr\)-](https://www.mass.gov/lists/lead-and-copper-forms-and-templates#lead-and-copper-rule-(lcr)-)

Private Well Owner Information

Some MA certified operators may be overseeing private wells or maybe you have a private well in your backyard and can benefit from this Water Systems Council information. In any case, it includes information on springtime maintenance, well diagrams, checklists, cistern care, septic system checks, and PFAS in well water. It's "well" worth the read!

<https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/water-well-help/won-newsletter-archive/>

You may also be interested in the MassDEP Be Well Tool. Be Well Informed (BWI) is an online tool hosted by EPA that allows you to enter your water quality lab results and obtain information regarding any contaminant concentrations that exceed MassDEP or federal standards or guidelines that exist for public drinking water. The tool also provides information about any potential health risks and recommended water treatment options. See <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/understanding-my-laboratory-results>


Training

When you need training please look at the training calendar located at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html> for upcoming trainings.

If you need a refresher on recently given trainings, you can review several training videos located at:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJn2AKOcYr7lutGJB-UfDKtQPF_o_249m

or click here:  **YouTube**

MassDEP is sending this important drinking water information to all PWS responsible persons who are listed on the state database. If you are no longer the correct responsible person for the PWS please reply with the correct contact information. MassDEP needs one responsible contact person from each PWS.

Operators, consultants, and others who are interested in Drinking Water Program updates are encouraged to request to be subscribed to this email list. You may also request to be unsubscribed by replying to this email.

This MassDEP Program Director technical assistance email is funded by the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Section 70) Program. The Assessment is paid by all consumers of public water in Massachusetts and is collected by public water

systems. For more information about the Assessment Program, go to <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee.html>.
